



EVEREST SCALERS HONORED—Men who conquered Mt. Everest display decorations received from Nepal's King Tribhuvana. Flanking the bespectacled King, in center, are Bhotia Tensing, left, with mustache, and Sir Edmund Hillary of New Zealand, right. At left, holding floral neckpiece, is Col. John Hunt, leader of the expedition. (AP Wirephoto)

Conquerors of Everest Mobbed by Admirers

NEW DELHI, June 28 (AP) — Club-swinging police charged a wildly hysterical, hero-worshipping crowd which mobbed Mt. Everest conquerors Bhotia Tensing and Edmund Hillary upon their arrival today at New Delhi's Palam Airport.

The enthusiastic Indians — numbering more than 3000 — broke police cordons at the edge of the airfield and surrounded the plane. Then they pushed Tensing, his wife and two daughters and Hillary nearly a quarter of a mile down the field. A squad of 50 police clubbed the admirers away from the dazed Tensing, who vainly tried to break through the screaming human wall.

The police finally whisked Tensing and his family and Hillary into the Nepalese Ambassador's car. The veteran mountain climber, who was born in Nepal but has lived for many years in India, arrived here from Katmandu, Nepal, and Calcutta for a round of official honors.

Tensing had climbed the world's highest peak, but he was reported airsick on the flight today. His secretary appeared first when the plane landed and disclosed he was "feeling a bit uneasy."

No Handshake

Indian Government Protocol Chief I. S. Chopra was never able to get near enough to Tensing and Hillary today to perform the official handshake on behalf of Prime Minister Nehru.

In the evening, however, Nehru entertained them at a party.

Addressing newsmen at the Nepalese Embassy, where he is staying, Tensing said the conquest of Everest May 28 symbolized a victory of the human spirit and will.

He pleaded that controversies regarding his nationality and who reached the top first be ended once and for all.

Life Companion

Tensing said Hillary had been and would forever be his "atma sati"—life companion—and that "none of us could have reached the top alone nor descended alone without the close co-operation of the other."

He declared he was born in Nepal, where his mother and sisters live, and settled down in India—Darjeeling—where he married and is living at present. He added: "I belong to both countries—there need be no controversy about that."